

task is your own and it is being held out with the kinds of preconceptions and beliefs you have, you won't assume the same responsibility. I could have voted for 663 before. Prior to this, it was a bill that was making some changes in the law that really were evenhanded and relatively fair. But this is unevenhanded. It is not reciprocal. It is trying to exact from other people a higher standard than the proponents are willing to exact from themselves and, in my eyes, it is an act of bad faith. For that reason, I will vote against 663.

PRESIDENT: Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I certainly wish Senator Johnson was on the floor because he said three things fine, Senator Johnson. He said counseling, in his estimation, was a very good policy. At least he agrees with that. He also said that abortion was no small procedure. I have been saying that for ten years. The consequences, the complications, name it, you have got it in the abortion procedure. The counseling is not being done. He said also that there is life in potential. I disagree. I believe that there is a living human being and what is about to occur is no small measure in anyone's mind, I am sure, if you believe that a woman is carrying a living human being. I also want to say to my two friend...three friend attorneys, Senator Chambers, Senator Landis, Senator Johnson, the court's language that I was talking about prior...and maybe you weren't on the floor listening, the City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health, and let me give you some of the court's decisions, the Supreme Court. The court's language with regard to this issue is as follows: "We cannot say that the woman's consent to the abortion will not be informed if a physician delegates the counseling to another qualified person. A state may define the physician's responsibility to include verification that adequate counseling has been provided and that the woman's consent is informed. In addition, the state may establish reasonable minimum qualifications for those people who perform the primary counseling functions." In a footnote in this opinion, "Counselors must be trained initially at least in the following subjects. Sexual and reproductive health, abortion technology, contraceptive technology, short-term counseling skills, community resources and referrals, informed consent, agency policies and practices." This bill that I am proposing in LB 663 says this, "The person